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here in the last three years, and as soon as I shall have obtained them I will forward them to you, with a complete report on the subject, and on the manner in which the epidemic has lately been handled.

In speaking of the subject now, I will only say that the way in which the disease has been managed since I have had an opportunity to observe it, would reflect great credit on any civilized country in the world, and the health officials here deserve great praise for the rational and scientific and thoroughly modern manner in which they have gone about the matter, and for the success which has so nearly crowned their efforts.

The hospital is up to date in every way, that is, in all matters which really count in handling the disease. It lacks sorely many things which money could supply, but this will soon be remedied, as an appro-

priation of some \$25,000 has been obtained.

During the year 1903 there were 624 admissions to the hospital, all verified cases of bubonic plague, and during this year up to the date of my visit, there have been 61 admissions. No case of sickness is sent to the hospital except cases of sickness which have been, in their homes, verified as cases of true bubonic plague by bacteriological examination. \* \* \*

### Sanitary report for week ended April 17, 1904.

During the week ended April 17 there were in all 290 deaths. Of this number 2 were caused by yellow fever, with a total of 6 new cases reported during the week, while at the close of the week there were still 3 cases under treatment in the Hospital Sáo Sebastiáo. Of the deaths from yellow fever, 1 occurred in the hospital above named and the other in the Espirito Santo district of the city. Plague caused 4 deaths, with a total of 2 new cases reported, and at the end of the week there were 7 cases under treatment at the Paulo Candido Hospital at Jurajuba.

Variola caused 28 deaths, with 75 new cases reported, and at the end of the week there were 105 cases under treatment in Hospital Sáo

Sebastiáo.

There were no deaths from measles, scarlet fever, or dysentery. Whooping cough caused 1 death; diphtheria, 3; grippe, 3; enteric fever, 2; beriberi, 2; leprosy, 1; malarial fevers, 11, and tuberculosis, 45 deaths.

I omitted to state above that of the 4 deaths from plague, 3 occurred in the plague hospital and 1 in the district Santa Anna, in this city.

The weather has been overcast, with slight showers, during the greater portion of the week, and consequently there has been no excessive heat. The highest range of the thermometer was on April 17, 30.7° C., and the lowest on April 14, 19° C., with an average for the week of 22.6° C.

Plague in Antofogasta—Pasteur Institute of Rio de Janeiro.

#### Plague in Antofogasta, Chile.

April 21, 1904: A dispatch of date of April 19 states that "There were to-day verified in Antofogasta 9 new cases of bubonic plague." The dispatch is from Santiago. And, also, another dispatch of the same date states that "Doctor Leon, who has recently returned from

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Antofogasta, certifies that the disease which is now prevailing there and of which the effects are so terrible and so much felt throughout the city, is really the true bubonic plague."

# Pasteur institute of Rio de Janeiro.

In this institute, during the three months ended March 31, 1904, there were 134 admissions for consultation, 65 for treatment; 69 were not admitted to hospital, as they needed no treatment; 54 concluded the treatment, 9 abandoned it, 1 person died, and at the close of the period 17 remained under treatment. All figures are for treatment for hydrophobia. The patient who died did not present himself for treatment until nine days after the death of the dog by which he was bitten.

Public health, State of São Paulo—Improvements in Rio de Janeiro— Dysentery in Pernambuco—Vaccination.

During the week ended April 24, 1904, I inspected and issued bills of health to the following vessel: Steamship *Merchant Prince*, for New York, with a cargo of coffee; no passengers from here of any class, but six first-class from the Rio Plata, and with no change of personnel of the crew while in this port. This was the only vessel leaving here for the United States during the week.

#### Public health in the State of São Paulo.

"Both yellow fever and bubonic plague made their appearance in some parts of the State, but owing to the measures promptly taken were quickly got under control and did not spread, a significant testimony to the value of our sanitary service and to the zeal with which scientific observation and teaching that reach us from abroad are here assimilated and utilized. Due to this attitude, as soon as the question of transmission of yellow fever was scientifically discussed the sanitary service was able to put into execution all the precautions prescribed by recent discoveries."

The above is from the message of the President of the State of São Paulo to the State legislature, and refers to the past year 1903. From the same message I also inclose that portion bearing on the drainage

and water supply of the city of Santos.

# Improvements in Rio de Janeiro.

"The work of demolition for the Avenue (Central), is going rapidly on, and the two extremities of it at Prainha and Adjuda are already in ruins. It is easy enough to pull down and destroy. It is the rebuilding that will be tedious and laborious, and we fear that it will be a long time before, with such ambitious plans, the avenue will be rebuilt.

Things are certainly improving, and, with new streets and new avenues, manners, too, are to be reformed and some respect be shown for common decency. The open, offensive sanitary arrangements that disgraced some of the most central parts of the city are disappearing and being replaced by modern, up-to-date constructions that would be a credit anywhere.

A somewhat novel experiment is being made to exterminate the rats